

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A vending machine for sale of items selected by a customer, said ~~door~~ vending machine including a retrofit door for retrofitting to an existing vending machine, said vending machine comprising:

a storage unit for storing a plurality of items for sale and a dispensing mechanism for dispensing the items from said storage unit;

the retrofit door comprising:

(a) a selector device for selecting one or more of said items for sale by a customer;

(b) a payment-control device for receiving and detecting an amount of payment required for sale of an item and for actuating said dispensing mechanism when a payment is received to dispense a selected item; and

(c) a computer assembly connected to said storage and dispensing unit, selector device and payment control device and having a computer, video display screen and a communication network, whereby said computer is connected to and actuated by said selector device for automatically connecting said computer to a preselected internet site and automatically displaying information obtained from said internet site on said video screen for viewing by the customer, said computer assembly further including customer actuating means for enabling a customer to interface with said computer.

2. (Original) The vending machine of claim 1, wherein said communication network comprises a modem and said computer assembly further includes a telephone line connection for connecting said computer to said internet site.

3. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 1, wherein said computer

internet site in response to a selected item.

4. (Original) The vending machine of claim 1, said computer assembly further comprising

data storage means connected to said selector device for displaying selected stored information in response to a selection of items by a customer.

5. (Original) The vending machine of claim 4, wherein said computer displays information from said data storage means at idle times of said vending machine.

6. (Original) The vending machine of claim 5, further comprising a speaker for broadcasting audio signals, where said data storage means transmits signals to said video screen and speaker to display advertising information from said data storage means.

7. (Original) The vending machine of claim 1, said computer further comprising user operated keypad and trackball for operating said computer to connect said computer to an internet site selected by said customer.

8. (Original) The vending machine of claim 1, said computer further including speakers for receiving audio transmission from said internet site.

9. (Original) The vending machine of claim 1, said computer further comprising an audio display device, a microphone and audio recording device for recording audio by said customer.

10. (Original) The vending machine of claim 9, wherein said computer further comprises a camera and video recording device for recording an image of said customer.

11. (Original) The vending machine of claim 1, wherein said computer further comprises a central control unit for an audio-visual connection to an internet site;

a transmission unit for transmitting an audio-visual signal from said computer to said internet

a receiving unit for receiving audio-visual signals from said internet site; and a recording unit for recording and storing said audio-visual signals.

12.(Currently Amended) A retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine for sale of items selected by a customer, said retrofit door assembly comprising:

a storage unit for storing a plurality of different items for sale and a dispensing mechanism for dispensing the items from said storage unit;

a selector device for selecting one or more of said items for sale by the customer;

a payment-control device for receiving and detecting an amount of payment required for sale of an item and for actuating said dispensing mechanism when a payment is received to dispense a selected item; and

a computer assembly connected to said storage ~~and dispensing~~ unit and dispensing mechanism, selector device and payment control device, and having a computer, video display screen and a modem, whereby said computer is connected to and actuated by said selector device for automatically connecting said computer to a pre-selected internet site and automatically displaying information obtained from said internet ~~address~~ site on said video screen for viewing by the customer.

13.-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine for dispensing of at least one drink selected by a customer, said retrofit door assembly comprising:

a door having a computer, video screen and communication network operatively connected to the internet whereby a customer may view website content on said video screen,

a delivery port for dispensing said at least one drink selected by a customer to the customer, an access portal to the Internet on said door for interaction of the customer through the Internet, so that the customer may choose a website to view on the video screen.

32. (Currently Amended) A vending machine comprising the retrofit door assembly of claim 31, said vending machine further including a storage unit for storing said at least one drink for selection by a customer,

33. (Currently Amended) The vending machine of claim 32, wherein said vending machine further comprises a dispensing mechanism for dispensing said at least one drink,

34. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, wherein at least one of a telephone connection, cable, modem, antenna, and satellite dish is provided for interacting with other transmitters and receivers.

35. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 34, wherein the other receiver is capable of receiving and utilizing data.

36. (Currently Amended) The vending machine of claim 32, wherein said selected drink is at least one drink selected from the group consisting of drinks in cans and bottles.

37. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising:
at least one mechanism selected from the group including data storage unit, programmable audio-video message storage unit, laser-disc, read-write CD-ROM, read only memory recording medium magnetic media and diskette for storage of data and recording- storage and playback of audio and video signals,

wherein a customer is enabled respectively to upload and download audio and video signals from and to said mechanism to and from websites and home pages, and to send and receive data from and to said mechanism to and from other data transmitters or receivers.

38. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 37, further comprising a camera connected to a computer for generating video signals, and

a microphone connected to a computer for generating audio signals, wherein said microphone generated audio and camera generated video signals are recorded alone or in

combination with already recorded audio and visual signals by said at least one mechanism.

39. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising: a camera connected to a computer for generating video signals-, a microphone connected to said computer for generating audio signals; and at least one audio-video mechanism connected to said computer for recording said audio and

40. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 39, wherein said signals provide a two-way communication via the Internet.

41. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 40, wherein said at least one audio-video mechanism is selected from the group consisting of data storage mechanism, laser-disc read-write CD-ROM, and diskette, whereby said signals are recorded by said at least one audio-video mechanism and dispensed to the customer.

42.-59. (Cancelled).

60. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine of claim 31, wherein the communication network comprises a modem on said door.

61. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly of claim 31, further comprising a money delivery port on said door.

62. (Currently Amended) The vending machine of claim 61, wherein money is dispensed through said money delivery port.

63. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine of claim 31, wherein said door further comprises means for two-way interactive communications by a customer with the Internet.

64. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing

vending machine according to claim 31, wherein the door further comprises at least one of a blank compact disk and a blank diskette delivery port.

65. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, wherein the door further comprises speakers.

66. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, wherein the door further comprises a keypad.

67. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, wherein the door further comprises a trackball.

68. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, wherein the door further comprises a camera.

69. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, wherein the door further comprises a programmable selection panel for customer selection of websites or home pages to transmit-receive data, music, video and audio and to provide visual and digital recording functions.

70. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, wherein the door further comprises a headphone.

71. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, wherein the door further comprises a microphone.

69. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, wherein the door further comprises a credit card reader.

70. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, wherein the door further comprising means for displaying pricing information for the Internet.

71. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, wherein the door further comprises a scratch pad memory unit.

75. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, wherein the door further comprising means to display time left to browse web sites.

76. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, further including a programmable selection panel for selecting web sites or home pages.

77. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, further including means to accept input from a customer.

78. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 77, wherein the computer is also connected to the means to accept input from a customer.

79. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, wherein said vending machine is connected to an Internet service provider by a communication network system which enables two-way multimedia interactive communication with a customer.

80. (Currently Amended) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising transmitting and receiving network communication means and content uploading and downloading means to and from websites so as to enable communication between a customer and an owner or operator of said vending machine.

81. (Currently Amended) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising programmable means to connect the machine to a website or homepage of a manufacturer of the drink selected.

82. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising programmable means to connect the machine to a web site or homepage of an owner or operator of the vending machine.

83. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising at least one of an audio or a video interface circuit for two-way interactive communication.

84. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 83, wherein the interface circuit for two-way interactive communication is a video interface circuit.

85. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 82, further comprising means to download a communication onto a mobile recording medium.

86. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 63, wherein the interactive communications are interactive visual communications.

87. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising a credit card acceptor.

88. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising means for accepting payment.

89. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 88, wherein the payment comprises at least one of coins, bills and credit cards.

90. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising means for accepting visual input.

91. Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 90, further comprising means for converting said visual input to digital form.

92. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 91, further comprising a

communications network to connect the vending machine to a pre-programmed financial web site.

93. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 92, further comprising means to download information from said financial web site.

94. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising an amount deposit acceptor.

95. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 37, wherein said programmable audio-video message storage unit comprises at least one of an optical recording medium, a magnetic recording medium, and an electrically eraseable and programmable read-only memory recording medium.

96. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising a payment control device.

97. (Currently Amended) A combination of a computer and selector provided on a door for retrofitting an existing vending machine for dispensing at least one item selected for purchase by a customer, comprising a door upon which said computer is mounted and connected and activated by said selector, also mounted on the door, for connecting said computer to the Internet and conveying information from the Internet to a web site or homepage of a manufacturer of the item purchased, or the web site or homepage of an owner or operator of the vending machine.

98. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, said door further comprising at least one of a programmable microprocessor and an interface circuit.

99. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine according to claim 31, said door further comprising at least one of a digital signal processing unit and an interface circuit.

100. (Currently Amended) A combination of a computer and selector provided on a door

for retrofitting an existing vending machine for dispensing at least one item selected by a customer, comprising a door, the door comprising a computer and a selector, wherein said computer is connected to and activated by the selector for connecting to a web site or homepage of a web site of an Internet provider.

101. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine of claim 31, further comprising software for browsing the Internet.

102. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine of claim 78, wherein the computer displays a homepage or website, together with information from an Internet provider.

103. (Currently Amended) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising a computer activation circuit in which the computer is connected to an Internet provider via the Internet before the drink is dispensed.

104. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine of claim 31, further comprising software for connecting the computer with an Internet site.

105. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine of claim 31, wherein an Internet site is selected from the group consisting of an Internet provider, a manufacturer of the item, a vendor of the item, a website specified by the customer, an owner of the vending machine, an operator of the vending machine, news websites, financial websites, music websites and a website of the property owner where the vending machine is located.

106. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising software for automatically connecting the vending machine to a specific Internet web site.

107. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 106, wherein the specific Internet website transmits and receives at least one of data, audio or video signals.

108. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising means to display advertising when the vending machine is idle.

109. (Currently Amended) The door for retrofitting an existing vending machine of claim 31, further comprising an escutcheon plate and a transparent plastic panel with back lighting to display a logo or trademark of a vendor, and at least one audio or video drive for transmitting customer data to a remote receiver.

110. (Previously Presented) The door for retrofitting an existing vending machine of claim 31, further comprising an interface to a communication network to access an on-line computer service, wherein said service is capable of transmitting and receiving, via a communication network, a request for service by a customer and a response to said request.

111. (Previously Presented) The vending machine of claim 32, further comprising a transmit-receive circuit connecting the vending machine with other transmitters and receivers.

112. (Currently Amended) A retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine for sale of items selected by a customer, said retrofit door assembly comprising: a door, said door comprising: a selector device for selecting one or more of said items for sale by the customer; a payment-control device for receiving and detecting an amount of payment for the item for sale; the payment control device receiving and detecting a further amount of payment in excess of the payment required for the item for sale; and means for connecting the customer to a website of his choice upon receiving and detecting said further amount of payment.

113. (Previously Presented) The door for retrofitting an existing vending machine of claim 31, further comprising a mouse.

114. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a customer with access to the Internet via a vending machine, said method comprising:

- 1.) providing a vending machine to vend at least one item for purchase by a customer;
- 2.) said step of purchasing said at least one item permits the customer to be operatively
Connected, via the Internet, to at least one pre-selected website;
- 3.) allowing access to at least one additional websites of the customer's choice, said
access comprising at least one of inserting money or credit card information into the vending machine
in excess of an amount required for the purchase of said at least one item; and customer input of data to
a computer.
115. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 114, including connecting said
computer to a website via a modem.
116. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 114, wherein said customer input
comprises activating at least one key of a keyboard.
117. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 114, including actuating at least one
of audio, video and multi-media capabilities associated with the vending machine.
118. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 114, wherein said access to the
internet is effected by inserting money in the form of coin or currency into said vending machine.
119. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 114, wherein said access includes
providing means for two-way interactive visual communications by a customer with the internet.
120. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 114, further including the step of
providing means to allow the customer to download data, audio or video information from the
internet and take it away from the vending machine in the form of magnetic or optical storage media.
121. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 114, including providing the
vending machine with a camera.
122. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 114, wherein the step of providing

said vending machine is in the form of an existing vending machine with a retrofit door.

123. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 114, wherein a customer may transmit data on the internet from the customer's own magnetic or optical storage mediums insertable into drives in the vending machine.

124. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 122, where a computer is assembled onto the retrofit door for the vending machine and said computer also controls various components of the vending machine, in addition to internet access.

125. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 114, further including providing at least one of telephone, cable or satellite communications on said vending machine.

126. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 114, further including providing a microphone on the vending machine.

127. (Currently Amended) A method of attracting greater patronage to a vending machine for drinks, said method comprising: providing a vending machine for drinks with a retrofit door assembly, the retrofit door assembly comprising a door with a video screen, at least one of a credit card reader or a money acceptor; and at least one of a keypad, mouse or trackball; automatically connecting the customer to at least one predetermined website and displaying the at least one predetermined website on the video screen upon said actuation of the money acceptor or credit card reader in an amount required to purchase the drink; causing a drink to be vended to the customer; permitting a predetermined time period for which the customer is automatically connected to the at least one predetermined website; and thereafter permitting the customer access to at least one website of the customer's choice on the Internet/world wide web through interaction with said vending machine by the payment of an additional amount in excess of the amount required to vend the drink, which customer's choice of website is displayed on the screen.

128. (Cancelled)

129. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 127, wherein the predetermined website displays at least one of informational, entertainment or advertising.

130. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing vending machines, comprising the step of providing a vending machine to dispense at least one article selected from the group consisting of cans, bottles, drinks in cups, sandwiches, candy and combs to be purchased by a consumer; wherein the vending machine comprises a storage device for the at least one article and a dispensing mechanism for dispensing the at least one article; the vending machine being further provided with a delivery port in a door of the vending machine through which the at least one article is dispensed to the consumer; the door of the vending machine further incorporating a two way interactive consumer accessible internet communication system to permit the customer access to websites of the customer's choice.

131. (Currently Amended) The vending machine according to claim 32, wherein said at least one item selected is a drink.

132. (Currently Amended) The vending machine according to claim 32, wherein said at least one item selected is a drink in bottles.

133. (Previously Presented) A door for a vending machine for sale of items selected by a customer, said door comprising: a dispensing mechanism for dispensing an item from among a plurality of items stored in a storage unit of said vending machine, a selector device permitting the customer to select one or more of said items for sale, a payment-control device capable of receiving and detecting an amount of payment required for a sale of an item, and an access portal to the Internet on said door for interaction of the customer with the Internet.

134. (Currently Amended) The retrofit door assembly of claim 133, wherein the item selected by the customer is a drink in bottles.

135. (New) The method of claim 114, further comprising the step of incorporating a

timing device into the vending machine to limit the time the customer is operatively connectable, via the Internet, to at least one of the preselected websites.

136. (New) The method of claim 130 wherein said at least one item is a can.

137. (New) The method of claim 130 wherein said at least one is a bottle.

138. (New) A retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine for sale of items selected by a customer, said retrofit door assembly comprising:

a door;

said door comprising a computer assembly;

said computer assembly comprising a computer, video display screen and a communication network, whereby said computer is connectable to at least one of a pre-selected website and a website of a customer's choice, with a display of the the at least one website being visible on said video screen for viewing by the customer.

139. (New)A retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine for sale of items selected by a customer, said retrofit door assembly comprising:

a door;

said door comprising:

a selector device for selecting one or more of said items for sale by the customer;

a payment-control device for receiving and detecting an amount of payment required for sale of an item and for actuating said dispensing mechanism when a payment is received to dispense a selected item; and

a computer assembly connected to said selector device and payment control device;

said computer assembly comprising a computer, video display screen and a communication

network, whereby said computer is connected to and actuated by said selector device for automatically connecting said computer to at least one website of a customer's choice and displaying information obtained from said website on said video screen for viewing by the customer.

140. (New) A retrofit door assembly for retrofitting an existing vending machine for sale of items selected by a customer, said retrofit door assembly comprising:

a selector device for selecting one or more of said items for sale by the customer;

a computer assembly connected to said selector device and having a computer, video display screen and a communication network, whereby said computer is connected to and actuated by said selector device for connecting said computer to a website of the customer's choice and displaying information obtained from said website on said video screen for viewing by the customer.